

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service Commission held by telephone and internet audio conference on the 24th day of February, 2021.

In the Matter of the Petition of Conexon)
Connect, LLC For Designation as an Eligible)
Telecommunications Carrier Pursuant to) **File No. DA-2021-0193**
Section 214(e)(2) of the Communications Act)
of 1934, as Amended)

**ORDER GRANTING DESIGNATION AS
AN ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER**

Issue Date: February 24, 2021

Effective Date: March 26, 2021

On January 5, 2021, Conexon Connect, LLC (Conexon) requested authority to be designated as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC).¹ Conexon was recently awarded federal Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) support to build broadband facilities in more rural areas. The RDOF funding requires Conexon to extend broadband service to a designated number of locations in certain census blocks. Conexon seeks ETC designation to include the census blocks it was awarded. Conexon included Exhibits A with its application which outlines the specific census blocks for which it requests designation.

The Commission issued notice and set a deadline for intervention. No person or entity sought intervention in this matter, and no party has requested a hearing.

The Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) conducted an investigation and on February 4, 2021, filed its recommendation and memorandum. Staff

¹ Conexon is presently registered as an interconnected voice over internet protocol (IVoIP) service provider.

recommended that the Commission approve Conexon's request for designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier for the purpose of receiving federal high-cost and low-income support for census blocks identified in the applicant's Exhibit A. Staff stated Conexon met the requirements of Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-31.016 governing eligible telecommunications carriers. Staff notes that Conexon requests a waiver of the 60-day notice requirement of Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017, and recommends that such waiver be granted.

Under federal authority, the application is within the Commission's jurisdiction to decide.² Since no law requires a hearing, this is a non-contested case.³ Non-contested cases do not require formal proceedings or hearings before the Commission, and as such, there is no evidentiary record.⁴ Consequently, the Commission bases its decision on the verified filings.

Based upon its review of the verified application and Staff's recommendation and memorandum, the Commission finds that Conexon has met the requirements for ETC designation. Further, for good cause shown, Conexon will be granted a waiver of the 60-day filing requirement of the Commission's rules.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. Conexon's application is granted. Conexon is granted ETC designation in all census block groups described in Exhibit A to its application.
2. Conexon is granted a waiver of the 60-day notice requirement of Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017.

² 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(2).

³ *In the Matter of Kansas City Power & Light Co.'s Request for Authority to Implement a General Rate Increase for Elec. Serv. v. Pub. Serv. Comm'n*, 509 S.W.3d 757, 783-784 (Mo. App. W.D. 2016).

⁴ *State ex rel. Pub. Counsel v. Pub. Serv. Comm'n*, 210 S.W.3d 344, 353-354 (Mo. App. W.D. 2006).

3. This order shall become effective on March 26, 2021.
4. This file shall be closed on March 27, 2021.



BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Silvey, Chm., Kenney, Rupp, Coleman, and
Holsman CC., concur.

Pridgin, Regulatory Law Judge